

# **Starke County Commissioners' Minutes**

**December 2, 2024**

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Commissioners and meet in regular session in the meeting room of the Starke County Annex #1, Knox, IN, with Mark Gourley absent and the following proceedings were held to wit:

## **IN RE: PROPEL**

Scott Sandstrom went through the Propel Study report that was published in the Leader. Public comment is open until December 13<sup>th</sup>. The power point is on file in the Auditor's Office. The full report is on file at the Starke County Public Library and the Hamlet Public Library.

If you want to discuss the report they will be at the Bourbon Town Hall, 104 E. Park Ave., Bourbon, IN, as all the local locations and times have passed.

## **IN RE: PRAIRIE TRAILS CLUB, INC.**

Steve Lucas with Prairie Trails Club, Inc., requested to modify the Share-the-Road designations to optimize the use by bicyclists and walkers of the 2021 Erie Trail extension. They have the funding for the signs and they are basically just asking for permission to add the extra signs. Charles Chesak moved to approve seconded by Don Binkley with 2 ayes.

## **IN RE: HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

Rachel Oesterreich, Highway Superintendent, requested that CR 400 S west of Highway 23 (.56 miles) and CR 350 S west of Highway 23 (.38 miles), be removed from the county road inventory. Neither road is drawn off on GIS and they are not developed. The property owners are still paying the taxes. They were added to the county inventory in on December 6, 2007, but were never developed. Technically they are not roads except on the INDOT side. The county is not giving up anything and no reverting of property needs to be done. Charles Chesak moved to approve seconded by Don Binkley with 2 ayes.

Rachel stated that pug mix with Central Paving will be about 32 cents per gallon. There would need to be about 5900 gallons. The commissioners will take under consideration.

The commissioners would like Rachel to check on tire prices at other locations.

**IN RE: HAMLET FIRE DEPARTMENT COMMUNICATIONS**

Arron Anderson, Hamlet Fire Dept. Chief, would like to request funding from CEDIT to upgrade radios and add tablets for better communications in the amount of \$10,000. Don Binkley asked if we had received any solar money yet that this could come from and was told that none had been received yet. Charles Chesak moved to approve seconded by Don Binkley with 2 ayes.

**IN RE: MINUTES**

Charles Chesak moved to approve the November 25, 2024, minutes seconded by Don Binkley with 2 ayes.

**IN RE: PAYROLL AND VENDOR CLAIMS**

Charles Chesak moved to approve Payroll Claims seconded by Don Binkley with 2 ayes.

Charles Chesak moved to approve the vendor claims seconded by Don Binkley with 2 ayes.

**IN RE: RESOLUTION #30 OF 2024**

Charles Chesak moved to approve the resolution requiring commissioner approval for the hiring of private attorneys using county funds seconded by Don Binkley with 2 ayes. (Resolution on file in the Auditor's Office.)

**IN RE: SURVEYING OF BASS LAKE AND KOONTZ LAKE EASEMENTS**

The Commissioners asked the Auditor to contact WKVI and ask them to again put on the radio that they are looking for a surveyor to survey the easements at Bass Lake and Koontz Lake, either in full or in segments.

There being no further business to come before the board Charles Chesak moved to adjourn seconded by Don Binkley with 2 ayes.

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Don Binkley, President

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Charles Chesak, Vice President

ABSENT

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Mark Gourley, Member

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Michaelene J. Houston, Starke County  
Auditor and Secretary to the Commissioners